Target announces \$7,000 in local grants

By JIM PARISH
Times staff writer

:Grants totaling \$7,000 to three Laredo community service organizations were announced Tuesday by Ernest Torres, Laredo Target Greatland Store manager. The grants followed Monday's donation of \$10,000 to the Laredo Children's Museum.

Torres said awards to Laredo agencies made at the Target Employees Appreciation Day program Tuesday included:

Laredo Philharmonic Orchestra got a \$5,000 check that was accepted by orchestra business manager Gail Rodriguez.

Stop Child Abuse & Neglect (SCAN), a United Way agency, was awarded \$1,000. SCAN director Ramiro Luna commended Target for giving priority to grants to United Way agencies in all American cities where there are Target stores.

■ Laredo Catholic Social Services received \$1,000, which was presented to executive director Roxanne Guerra.

Target is the largest subsidiary of Dayton Hudson Corportation, which has had a 50-year practice of contributing five percent of its taxable income back to the community in the form of grants.

"Target supports thousands of new and ongoing programs in communities where stores are located." said Torres.

Torres said this year Target's contributions will total about \$6 million. Last year, Target employees gave more than \$4.7 million to United Way agencies and supple-

mented employee efforts with \$800,000, he added.

"Before we officially open for business in Laredo, the company's initial grant to a United Way agency is being made to SCAN. In Laredo we are proud to become volunteers in the ranks of the United Way, which has a grand record of community service," said Torres.

Rudy Colmenero, manager of Target's Dallas regional division, commended Torres for volunteering to assist the 1992-93 Laredo United Way campaign.

Two new Target stores in El Paso are also being opened, in addition to a store opening in McAllen

The Laredo store will open for business Wednesday at 9:00 a.m The grand opening ceremony will be Sunday at 11 a.m. Chamber of Commerce board chairman Bill Green and Mayor Saul Ramirez will make short addresses. A free, seven hour program of live music will follow, featuring local and out-of-town bands.





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